

ACCUSED OF GAS THEFTS

Astounding Charges Against the Citizens of Indianapolis.

Company Directors Explain Their Action in Not Declaring Dividends—Three-Fourths of the People Said to Be Tapping the Pipes—A Great Decrease in the Earnings—The Press of the City Alleged to Have Openly Boasted of the Pilfering—Efforts to Check the Wasteful Unwilling—E. C. Benedict's Views on the Works of the Corporation.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—By order of the Board of Directors, Frank S. Hastings, President of the Indianapolis Gas Company, in this city, today made formal announcement that the directors had deferred action on dividends for an indefinite period, owing to what the directors characterize as "the most extraordinary social conditions which prevail at present in the city of Indianapolis." The gas company unreservedly accuses the citizens of that city of the largest and most flagrant pilfering of gas in the history of the world.

These thefts, the officers say, are not confined to the people of the slums and to the lower classes; but ministers, teachers, public officers, and well-to-do business men are equally implicated.

E. C. Benedict, one of the leading directors in this and other gas properties, asserted that not only was the constant pilfering of gas admitted, but that the people of Indianapolis openly boasted of the fact. The press, he said, had acknowledged the pilfering in the columns of the newspapers, and the practice of gas-stealing. The following statement by the directors explains why they are compelled to defer action on dividends.

To the stockholders of the Indianapolis Gas Company: Under an old municipal ordinance, your company has been selling natural gas in Indianapolis by contract without meter measurement. Originally this plan was accepted generally, but it has brought about a greatly diminished pressure in the field, which has made it impossible to render satisfactory service to the city. In consequence of the excessive waste of gas, the cost of production has been increased, and the company is unable to pay dividends.

Notwithstanding the fact that we have expended large sums of money in new wells, purifiers, and additional pipe lines in the city, for the purpose of bringing a greater volume of gas to the city, it has been found impossible to furnish a satisfactory service to the city. The excessive waste of gas is continued; at the same time our revenues have been largely decreased in consequence of the excessive waste of gas.

In spite of existing prohibitory statutes, a large percentage of our customers have refused to install meters, and the practice of gas-stealing has been increased. The company is unable to pay dividends.

The method of gas stealing practiced is to cut additional small holes in the feed pipe, without paying the extra charge due for the added supply. Everybody does this, and soon the amount of gas coming through the pipes becomes diminished. The gas company receives constant complaints of the gas supply, for more gas, and has drilled new wells, and laid new pipe lines, but all to no purpose.

The directors in New York were advised about a year ago that the citizens of Indianapolis were stealing gas without the least compunction. Out of 18,000 consumers more than three-quarters of them used more gas than they paid for. This condition of affairs naturally brings about great wastage, has the resultant effect of lowering gas pressure to the point of putting out the fires. The open stop-cock and an unexpected return of pressure have resulted in two deaths by asphyxiation.

The company's earnings for the last year show a decrease of \$100,000 from last year. The directors express great alarm, and Mr. Benedict said today:

"They will crowd us to bankruptcy if this goes on. We have no way of obtaining judgment. With no preachers to deter it, no jury or judge, to decide a suit in our favor, what can we do? In my opinion the people of this country ought to ensure the people of Indianapolis that this gas is stolen. It has been the custom of people from the three gas companies were formed to regard them as man's natural enemy, and to be assassinated."

In anticipation of the action of the directors, the stock of the company has in recent weeks declined from \$9 bid to \$2 bid, and the bonds from \$9 to \$7.

THE CHARGES RESENTED.

Indignation in Indianapolis Over Accusations of Gas Frauds.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 12.—The circular of the gas directors has taken the people of this city completely by surprise, and has been generally denounced as a libel on the patrons of the company. While it is admitted that the company may not have made as much money as it did several years ago, it is not so notorious that its patrons have paid enormous gas bills and received in return an insufficient supply of gas. In all such cases the company has offered to discontinue the supply, but patrons have preferred to supplement the fuel with coal and wood in bitter cold weather, rather than to do without the gas entirely, for in moderate weather the supply has been ample.

The company has charged the people here with boring their meters and thus "stealing" the gas, and there is no doubt that many of the company's patrons have resorted to this means to increase their supply, but even then the gas was short, in very cold weather and coal or wood had to be used. The city has just filed a suit to enforce a better supply and the council has an ordinance pending to regulate the company's charges to the amount of gas furnished.

Many have regarded the charges of fraud as the result of a desire to counteract the proposed steps on the part of the city to protect the people against the company's extortion. There is a probability that the increased cost of gas-well territory and of the machinery for forcing the product to points of consumption, especially when the latter are distant from the gas fields, have caused a large outflow by the company and reduced its profits, but the people here have paid more for gas than they did not get than the company has lost through the increase of supply by boring meters.

HARRISON ON SHIP SUBSIDIES.

The Ex-President Takes Chairman Hearn's Seriously to Task.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 12.—Several days ago Chairman Hearn, of the Republican State Committee, charged that General Harrison was in Washington working against the Ship Subsidy bill, and said that Harrison had advocated ship subsidies in a speech in this city in 1888. Mr. Harrison returned from Washington today and referred to Hearn's statement as follows:

"Mr. Hearn quotes from a speech which I made in 1888, but I wish to say that there is nothing in the speech which I made then in anything I have ever said or done that might be construed as an indication that I am in favor of the pending Ship Subsidy bill."

"The bill of which I publicly expressed my approval then was known as the Mail-Pay bill, which was passed during my Administration, awarding a liberal pay to steamships for carrying the mails."

"Anyone that will take the trouble to read the two bills will note the difference in the 19th and 20th sections. I am minded to discriminate between them, I think. The statement that I was opposing the bill in Washington is quite unfounded. There is nothing in the speech which I made then in anything I have ever said or done that might be construed as an indication that I am in favor of the pending Ship Subsidy bill."

Referring to the report that the relations between him and President McKinley are not cordial, Mr. Harrison said it was a mistake. He called twice on the President and was invited to dine with him, but had engagements for every evening and was forced to decline the invitation.

MANLEY'S DUTY TO MAINE.

His Letter Declining the Internal Revenue Commissionership.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Joseph H. Manley, National Republican Committee man from Maine, gave out for publication at the Fifth Avenue Hotel tonight the following letter, he handed today to President McKinley declining the office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue:

To the President: Washington, Dec. 12. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your invitation, tendering me the position of Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The position is, as you say, one of great importance and responsibility. You have been pleased to offer it to me, and I am deeply indebted to you for the honor.

I am profoundly grateful, Mr. President, for this evidence of your confidence and friendship. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, JOSEPH H. MANLEY.

BITTER AGAINST WILCOX.

The Hawaiian's Former Wife to Prefer Charges Against Him.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12.—A letter has been received here by a friend of Princess Gina Colonna Sobrero, now in Italy, saying she will cross the ocean to Washington and make a personal protest against the recognition of Robert W. Wilcox as a Delegate from Hawaii. The princess was the first wife of the late Governor of Hawaii, and she was divorced from him in 1894. She is now in Italy, and she is said to be in poor health.

"I can never forgive the man who ruined my young life, and who deceived me into marrying him by sick and false stories as to our future life in Hawaii. The post of honor, to which he aspires in the Congress, is a disgrace to him, and I shall stop it, and for that reason I shall soon visit your country."

A NEW STATEMENT BY YOUTSEY

Did Not See Howard the Day Goebel Was Shot.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 12.—Sensational affidavits have been made and placed in the hands of James Howard, now under sentence of death for the murder of William Goebel. Henry E. Youtsey, who according to Arthur Goebel's statement on the night of Youtsey's memorable outbreak, had said he let Howard into the office of the Secretary of State, and that he was the only person who saw Howard on the day that Goebel was shot, said today that he did not see Howard the day Goebel was shot, and that he had no knowledge of or information that Howard was with him.

PREIGHTS MEET HEAD-ON.

A Fireman Rescued by Having an Arm Chopped Off.

DE SOTO, Mo., Dec. 12.—A head-on collision occurred on the Iron Mountain Railway at Desoto, Mo., last night between two freight trains, killing Engineer James Britt and brakeman Ed Bradley. The latter was caught under the wreckage, which took fire, and his body was cremated. Fireman B. Barrett fell and was injured, but he was rescued. The collision was caused by Engineer Rose overlooking his meeting point. The loss to the railway company is about \$15,000.

DE WET EVADES A TRAP

Escapes From the British Forces for the Ninth Time.

General Kitchener Makes Announcement Which is Constructed as an Admission That the Boer General Has Once More Eluded His Forces—Knox Reported in Pursuit With Plenty of Aid in Case of Co-operation is Necessary—Burghers Moving Toward Reddersburg—Not Known Where They Crossed the Caledon—Comment of a London Newspaper.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—General Kitchener cables from Pretoria that General Knox reports from Helvetia that he is engaged in a running fight with General De Wet's burghers, who are moving in the direction of Reddersburg.

Another column is ready there to co-operate with General Knox. The thirteen prisoners captured by the Boers at Barberton have been released. General Kitchener also states that the Boers raided Riverton Road station yesterday.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—General Kitchener's curt announcement that General Knox is engaged in a running fight with General De Wet is not supplemented from any source, but it is obvious that the wily Boer general has escaped from the British for the ninth time.

It is useless to guess how and where he crossed the flooded Caledon River. It is known that the British, having checked his attempt to invade the Cape Colony, he has started his old game of hide and hide, moving in a northerly direction.

BOERS HOLD UP TWO TRAINS.

PRETORIA, Dec. 12.—A train proceeding from Natal to Johannesburg was held up early Saturday morning by 150 Boers near Vlakfontein. The Boers used oxen to pull up two lengths of rails, and the train, which contained remnants for the troops, was held up for some time. The burghers made the horses jump out of the trucks and captured 120 of them.

A second train containing provisions was held up by the Boers near Vlakfontein. The locomotive was slightly damaged. The men in charge of the train were compelled to alight and watch the Boers get the horses out of the trucks. This was being done a third train with a few soldiers aboard came up. As soon as the soldiers saw what was going on they opened fire, and the Boers, who were armed with rifles, returned the fire. They left two trucks untouched. Later the rails were relaid and the trains proceeded.

KRUGER'S VISIT A SURPRISE.

Von Buelow Again Denies Any Intention to Affect Oom Paul.

BERLIN, Dec. 12.—Replying to renewed attacks on the Government for the Emperor's refusal to meet Mr. Kruger, Chancellor von Buelow, in the Reichstag today, said that Mr. Kruger's visit to Cologne was a surprise to him. He said he had been informed before he left Paris that Emperor William would not receive him. The Chancellor repudiated a suggestion that the Emperor's relationship with English royalty affected the German policy towards the Boers.

"If it were so I would not remain a single day in office," he declared. He declared that not a single expression of opinion or suggestion from the English court had reached Berlin in reference to Mr. Kruger's treatment, nor was there a secret clause relating to that or any other contingency in the Anglo-German treaties regarding Samoa, Delagoa Bay, and the Yangtze-Kiang Valley.

It would seem from Count von Buelow's subsequent remarks that Germany seriously contemplated the possibility of a war with Great Britain at the time of the Jameson raid. He said there was no idea of repudiating the telegram sent to Kruger in 1896, in which the Emperor cordially expressed righteous indignation because of the breach of international law by filibusters. His Majesty never meant, however, to permit the German policy to be forever by this despatch.

The reception of the telegram outside of Germany had any rate done a service in enlightening the Government as to the situation and in not leaving it in doubt as to the fact that in the event of a conflict with Great Britain in Africa, Germany would have to rely solely upon her own strength. A conscientious government was bound to draw conclusions from this and the German Government had done so.

Subsequently Baron von Richthofen, Minister of Foreign Affairs, referring to individual claims addressed to their consuls by Germans in the Transvaal, said that these experiences should be a warning to Germans in foreign countries not to interfere in other people's affairs. Those Germans who fought for the Boers had not met a very happy lot. He cited instances where Germans who had done service for the Boers had not received their pay. They had been told that they were no longer needed and that they had not been invited to support the Boers.

CONCESSIONS TO THE BRITISH.

Portugal Grants Valuable Rights in South Africa to England.

BERLIN, Dec. 12.—The "Neue Nachrichten" says it learns that a new Anglo-Portuguese agreement has been made, under the terms of which Portugal gives to Great Britain a free hand in settling the question concerning the Netherlands Railway. It consents to the principle of Great Britain administering the Portuguese section of that railway, and also consents to the formation of a new Great Anglo-Portuguese company for a considerable extension of the harbor at Lourenco Marques. The company will be empowered to raise the harbor dues on an agreed scale, paying 15 per cent thereof to Portugal, who accordingly will not levy transit dues on goods consigned to the Transvaal.

A MONEY PANIC IN BERLIN.

Serious Aspect of the Stamp in Mortgage Bonds.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—The Berlin correspondent of the "Daily Mail" says that the slump in mortgage bonds threatens to wreck Germany's economic stability unless public confidence is restored. Some bankers in Berlin may find themselves in serious difficulties, and a financial crisis of unparalleled gravity may be precipitated in Berlin.

The mortgage bonds in circulation are five milliards marks. The mortgage banks were the principal sources of supply to the money market, their bonds being regarded as first class securities. All this confidence has now disappeared and the public is selling the bonds indiscriminately at panic prices. The Pomeranian Bank in one week purchased \$4,000,000 worth of its own bonds. The First Preussische Hypothek Bank and the Deutsche Grundschuld Bank were unable to meet the storm and the Government appointed receivers in both cases.

The receivers demand the arrest of Directors Sanden and Schmidt. Director Warsawsky has gone abroad. Herr Sanden's personal character is unimpeachable. Moreover, his private estate has been sequestered for the benefit of the bondholders. While the crisis continues and a general panic is quite possible. To avert a crash the Deutsche Bank and some other houses have undertaken to protect the protection of bondholders. This committee is advancing money in payment of interest due.

POLICE ON THE CARS.

Precautions Made Necessary by Assaults on the Paris Tramways.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—Owing to numerous personal assaults which have occurred recently on the tramways, the companies have refused to run their cars after dark. The police have been ordered to protect the cars. Consequently an order was issued today that armed policemen should accompany the cars in certain districts.

PATRIOTISM THE ONLY BAR.

England Trying to Buy Salvoira Island and From a Spaniard.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—A newspaper here claims to have received from Madrid official confirmation of the report that Great Britain is negotiating to buy Salvoira Island, which lies off the coast of north-western Spain, for a coaling station. The owner of the island, a Spaniard, has been offered \$1,200,000 for the property. Prime Minister Asquith is quoted as saying that the question of the sale depends solely upon the patriotism of the owner.

THE CZAR NEARLY WELL.

Able to Take Meals with the Czarina and Bullfight Discontinued.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 12.—The Czar's physicians say that his disease has run its course, and that more than a fortnight of convalescence has passed. His Majesty is now able to take his meals with the Czarina. No more bullfights will be issued.

NELSON RELICS RECOVERED.

Bought by an English Collector From a Stranger.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—Mr. Whitehead, a collector of curios, residing at Leicester, bought from an unknown visitor Nelson's watch, epaulettes, and a miniature portrait, which were stolen a few days ago from the late admiral's quarters. The vendor represented that he was in reduced circumstances and was compelled to sell the relics. He expressed great regret that he had to part with them.

ARTILLERY FOR THE SULTAN.

Negotiations With Krupp for Batteries of Quick Firing Guns.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 12.—The Sultan has authorized the War Office to negotiate with Herr Krupp for sixteen batteries of quick-firing guns. The German warship Moltke arrived at Beirut with a wreath from Emperor William. The Sultan is said to be in good health. It was deposited with great ceremony in the presence of the Moltke's officers and Ottoman troops.

NEGOTIATIONS BROKEN OFF.

The Standard Oil Agents Fail to Lease Roumanian Lands.

BUCHAREST, Dec. 12.—The representatives of the Standard Oil Company, who were negotiating with the Roumanian Government for the lease of Roumanian lands belonging to the State, broke off the negotiations today. The agreement was to have been signed and left Bucharest.

GERMANY'S NEW RIFLE.

The Government in Communication With the Inventor.

BERLIN, Dec. 12.—In the Reichstag today General von Gosseler, Minister of War, stated that the Government was in communication with the inventor of a new breech-loading rifle, which was said to be a very important improvement. The inventor was said to be a German, and the Government was said to be in communication with him regarding the proposed extension of the Executive Mansion, and when these had been duly inspected, Col. Bingham delivered an address in which he told the story of the White House, giving its history from the inception of the design till today, and garnishing his address with suggestions as to how the building should be improved and enlarged.

Following Colonel Bingham, District Commissioner Macfarland spoke of the development of the District of Columbia during the nineteenth century, and Leslie M. S. Governor of Iowa, spoke of the development of the United States during the same period. These exercises took place in the East Room, the speakers standing with their backs to the middle of the east wall and between the portraits of George and Martha Washington. The room was comfortably filled with the guests.

PAST THE CENTURY MARK

Washington Commemorates the Removal of the Capital.

The One Hundredth Anniversary of the Establishment of the Seat of Government in the District of Columbia Fittingly Observed—Reception by the President to the Visiting Governors—Plans for Additions to the White House Displayed by Colonel Bingham—Parade of Military and Civic Organizations—Eloquent Orations at the Capital.

The centenary of the establishment of the seat of government of the United States in the District of Columbia was celebrated yesterday with long, elaborate, and imposing exercises. Washington commemorated all the day and much of the night to the commemoration of the removal of the American Capital from Philadelphia to this city. With some persons it was a season of solemn thought, as the mind turned with memories of men and days long gone; with others it was a period of gala deeds. All work was practically suspended; troops of armed men, stepping to the rhythm of patriotic music, moved to and fro; rainbows of bunting were hung about the city, and orators, with tongues born or trained to the art of eloquence, called up the past, till the last decade of the eighteenth century was drawn so clearly that it appeared near. Historic epochs and the miles of tombs that separate the Washington that was from the Washington that is were swept over with a touch, a glance, till the Washington of old seemed not so far away.

Nature, in token of her good will, gave to the event one of her kindest days. The sun came up as red and yellow as trial gold, and as the shadows shortened, took on the sheen of glowing silver. Then it turned to red again. In the west, during the morning, and in the east during the afternoon, the sky was a hazy blend of soft grey and water blue. The flags above the house-tops, and the bunting festooned on brick and granite walls, were rustled by a breeze that was sometimes gentle, sometimes brisk, but never rude, that came up from the south.

The Governors of thirty-one of the States added by their presence in the observance of the day and the various ceremonies were participated in by the President of the United States, members of the Cabinet, Justices of the Supreme Court, Congressmen and officials of the District of Columbia.

The morning reception at the White House, the parade, the services in the Hall of the House of Representatives, and the evening reception at the Corcoran Gallery of Art were carried out in conformity with the programme. The city wore holiday attire and a holiday air. It was a culmination of the plans of two years.

Though it was a centennial observance, a little more than a century had passed since the event which was commemorated. The transfer of the seat of government from Philadelphia to Washington was completed, as far as the executive offices were concerned, by June 15, 1800. When the first session of the Sixth Congress adjourned at Philadelphia on May 14, 1800, it was directed that the second session, to begin on Monday, November 17, 1800, should be held at Washington, though, because of the tardiness of Members of Congress, a quorum in both the Senate and House of Representatives was not obtained until several days after the time set.

The early morning of yesterday was quiet, and a Sabbath stillness seemed to hover over the city. This was succeeded by the shuffling, buzzing, murmuring sound of crowds. The climax was reached when the streets filled with soldiery and bands.

The reception by the President to the visiting Governors, which was begun at the Executive Mansion at 10 o'clock, did not cause much public excitement nor arouse much popular enthusiasm. Invitations were limited to the Governors and certain citizens. But as early as 5:30 little groups of people collected at the north gate and peered into the grounds very much as though they hoped to look through the hard, white walls of the mansion. The President's reception was begun punctually at 10 o'clock.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

At the conclusion of this, Col. Theodore A. Bingham, United States Army, exhibited the models and drawings of the proposed extension of the Executive Mansion, and when these had been duly inspected, Col. Bingham delivered an address in which he told the story of the White House, giving its history from the inception of the design till today, and garnishing his address with suggestions as to how the building should be improved and enlarged.

Following Colonel Bingham, District Commissioner Macfarland spoke of the development of the District of Columbia during the nineteenth century, and Leslie M. S. Governor of Iowa, spoke of the development of the United States during the same period. These exercises took place in the East Room, the speakers standing with their backs to the middle of the east wall and between the portraits of George and Martha Washington. The room was comfortably filled with the guests.

There was a gentle glow in the room, the light of incandescent lamps falling through frosted glass in the gold ceiling. This light was sharpened by the mirrors that sparkled as crystal and a resplendent was given to the brilliancy of the light, direct and reflected, by the ferns and crops of preferred stock, held 13,909 shares of the common stock in the cable road and that in the adjustment, it had given this concern 1,956 shares of consolidated stock which if a proper reckoning was made was more than the brokers were entitled to if the debts of the cable road had been paid.

TO TAKE THE DUTCH CONSUL'S PLACE.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 12.—In consequence of the withdrawal by Portugal of the ex-ambassador of the Dutch Consul at Lourenco Marques, Germany has undertaken to protect the interests of the Netherlands at that place.

A MEMORABLE OCCASION

One Hundred Years of Progress Reviewed at the Capitol.

A Distinguished Gathering Present at the Centennial Ceremonies—The President and His Cabinet, Representatives of Foreign Countries, and Governors of States and Territories Present—The Hall of the House of Representatives Elaborately Decorated With Flags and Bunting—Appropriate Addresses by Senators and Representatives.

Probably the most distinguished gathering ever assembled in the Hall of the House of Representatives since the establishment of the seat of government in the District of Columbia was that which participated in the Centennial exercises at the Capitol yesterday afternoon.

The chamber was decorated with a wealth and variety of bunting said by old habits of the building to be unique in its history. From the gallery rails on all sides were draped the flags of all nations. Far in the stores of the Government at the Washington Navy Yard were supplied them. Interspersed among them were the Stars and Stripes, gathered at the end and middle of each place to represent an immense bow. The rail separating the seats from the lobby was entirely covered with parti-colored bunting, and the front row of desks was also hidden beneath coverings of flags. The desks of the Speaker, Clerk, and official reporters were draped with the national colors, the whole scheme being tasteful and strikingly effective.

Under the order of adjournment made Tuesday the House reassembled at 3:15 o'clock in order to receive the distinguished guests of the day. The members of the House were seated on the left of the Speaker's desk, and directly in front of them on the floor of the hall were seated the two blind chaplains of Congress.

At 3:30 o'clock the President pro tempore and members of the Senate were announced by Assistant Doorkeeper Kennedy. Preceded by Sergeant-at-Arms Randall and Secretary Bennett, they came down the central aisle, the Representatives following. The members of the House were seated on the left of the Speaker's desk, and directly in front of them on the floor of the hall were seated the two blind chaplains of Congress.

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THE BRITISH FLAG COVERED.

Effective Protests Against Its Display in the Capitol.

The prominence given to a British flag among the decorations in the hall of the House of Representatives yesterday was the cause of a decided protest to the Sergeant-at-Arms on the part of a number of visitors and members of the House. Either by accident or design the wall underneath the executive gallery had been covered by an English union jack, and the rumor went about the galleries that its presence was intended to indicate the special favor which British interests are considered now by the Administration.

The presence of the flag in such a place was not relished by the majority of the occupants of the public galleries. Although the ensigns of other nations were liberally used in decorating the hall. This matter was freely discussed and caustically commented upon. Finally, just before the ceremonies began several men went to the Sergeant-at-Arms and informed him that if the objectionable bunting was not removed they would tear it down and staple the ensigns of the United States to the wall. More delegations from the galleries appeared, and made similar statements. Then members of the House began to appear to enter protest against the flag.

In order to avoid a disturbance it was decided that the flag should be covered. A decorator was called and in a few minutes he had tacked a huge French ensign over the colors of Great Britain. Thus it was that no English flag was in view during the ceremonies, although the colors of Germany, Russia, Italy, Holland, Greece, and other nations were in evidence.

MR. HANNA WILL SPEAK.

To Address the Senate on the Ship Subsidy Bill Today.

The Senate, under its order adopted yesterday, met at 3 o'clock yesterday evening. After the journal had been read and approved, it was agreed to meet today at 11 o'clock, so that Senator Hanna might have an opportunity to speak on the Ship Subsidy bill.

ADVOCATED THE CANTEN.

General Corbin Before the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

Adjutant General Corbin appeared before the Military Affairs Committee of the Senate yesterday as a strong advocate of the post exchange, or army canteen, system, which the Senate committee change in this particular the Army Reorganization bill as passed by the House. Paymaster General Bator also appeared before the committee to recommend minor changes in the bill.

HANNA'S ROAD LOSES A SUIT.

A New York Bank Obtains a Judgment for \$22,084.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 12.—The First National Bank of New York, in Common Pleas Court today, was victorious in its fight against the Cleveland City Railway Company, better known as Senator Hanna's road. The jury decided that the railway company will have to pay the bank \$22,084 on 200 shares of preferred stock in the old cable railway company, which it held as security on a \$25,000 loan made to Hanna and Holt, New York brokers, in 1891.

The railroad in its answer said that Tutinor and Helt, aside from the 394 shares of preferred stock, held 13,909 shares of the common stock in the cable road and that in the adjustment, it had given this concern 1,956 shares of consolidated stock which if a proper reckoning was made was more than the brokers were entitled to if the debts of the cable road had been paid.

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ARRIVAL OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS.

Before the Representatives could resume their seats the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court were announced, accompanied by their officers and members of the Citizens Committee of Arrangements designated to receive them, and they proceeded to seats in front of the Senators. Associate Justices Gray and Shiras were not present. Then came all the Representatives still standing, members of the Diplomatic Corps in Washington, headed by their dean, Lord Pauncefote, the British Ambassador, who were assigned to seats in the rear of the Senators.

Governors of the several States and Territories were next announced and directed to seats back of the Diplomatic Corps. They were Governors of Arkansas, West Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri, Indiana, Thomas of Colorado, Tamm of Delaware, and Governor of Maine, Rollins of New Hampshire, Voorhees of New Jersey, Tyler of Virginia, Otero of New Mexico, Stinson of Idaho, Stone of Pennsylvania, Scott of Wisconsin, Russell of North Carolina, Roosevelt of New York, Lee of South Dakota, Murphy of Arizona, Gregory of Rhode Island, and others. Other distinguished visitors were General Miles and Admiral Dewey, and members of the committees from the country at large and of the committees of the citizens of the District and the chairman and vice president of the Centennial Committee.

Two ladies were honored with seats on the floor of the House for the afternoon, Mrs. Takahira, wife of the Japanese Minister, and Mrs. Agre, wife of the Haytian Minister.